

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Rejected Claims 16-17 has been cancelled. The remaining claims have been allowed.

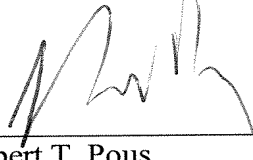
Applicant therefore believes that the present application is in a condition for allowance and respectfully solicits an early Notice of Allowability.

Respectfully submitted,

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 03/06)

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Robert T. Pous
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 29,099